REMARKS

A. Status

Entry of this preliminary amendment will result in (a) replacement of the informally-filed

figures with formal figures, (b) recitation of the relationship of this continuation application to its

co-pending parent application, and (c) amendment of the claims. The amendments to the

originally-filed claims were made for the same reasons specified for the corresponding

amendments in the parent case. Not all the claim amendments made in the parent case have been

made again in this case.

B. Claim 1 Is Patentable over the '709 Patent

Claim 1 and its dependent claims are patentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,398,709. These

claims include a parabolic surface defining a body chamber and a radioisotopic component inside

the body chamber. Claim 1 has been amended to distinguish the '709 patent by specifying that

the radioisotopic component is separated from the parabolic surface in at least one location by a

gap. The '709 patent fails to teach or suggest this claimed relationship. Therefore, the pending

claims are patentable over the '709 patent and should be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

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